

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A connector for connecting together ~~the free pin end and the free box end of~~ two tubular bodies, comprising:

a pin having pin threads formed externally on an end of a first tubular body, said pin threads extending from a starting point on said first tubular body and terminating adjacent the free pin end,

a box having box threads formed internally on an end of a second tubular body, said box threads extending from a starting point on said second tubular body and terminating adjacent the free box end,

said pin adapted to be received in and threadedly engaged within said box,

an external seal between said pin and said box adjacent said pin thread starting point and adjacent said free box end, said external seal comprising a pin seal surface formed externally ~~of~~ on said pin on a third tubular body comprising a metal seal base separately added to said first tubular body, and

an internal seal adjacent said box threads starting point and said free pin end whereby said pin threads and said box threads are confined between said external and internal seals when said pin and box are engaged.

2. (Currently Amended) The connector as defined in Claim 1 wherein said pin threads run out to an outside diameter of said first tubular at said starting point of said pin threads and said internal seal is defined by direct contact between external surfaces of said first and second tubular bodies without an intermediate sealing member.

3. **(Currently Amended)** A connector as defined in Claim 1 wherein said pin seal surface is formed on an annular metal ring comprising said metal seal base secured to said first tubular body.

4. **(Currently Amended)** A connector as defined in Claim 1 wherein said pin seal surface is formed on a weld bead comprising said metal seal base secured to said first tubular body.

5. **(Original)** A connector as defined in Claim 1 wherein said pin threads and said box threads are fully confined between said external and internal seals when said pin and box are engaged.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A connector for connecting together ~~the free pin end and the free box end of~~ two tubular bodies, comprising:

a pin having pin threads formed externally on an end of a first tubular body, said pin threads extending from a starting point on said first tubular body and terminating adjacent the free pin end,

a box having box threads formed internally on an end of a second tubular body, said box threads extending from a starting point on said second tubular body and terminating adjacent the free box end, said pin adapted to be received in and threadedly engaged with said box,

an external seal between said pin and said box adjacent said pin thread starting point and

adjacent said free box end, said external seal comprising a separately constructed annular body of metal secured on said pin end of a-said first tubular body, and

an internal metal-to-metal seal formed integrally on [the external] surfaces of said first and second tubular bodies adjacent said box threads starting point and said free pin end whereby said pin threads and said box threads are confined between said external and internal seals when said pin and box are engaged.

7. **(Withdrawn)** A connector as defined in Claim 6 wherein said body of metal is provided with a frustoconical seal surface adapted to engage a seal surface on said box end of a tubular body.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A Connector as defined in Claim 6 wherein said body of metal is provided with a hemispherical cross-section to provide a line contact seal surface with said box end of a-said second tubular body.

9. **(Withdrawn)** A connector as defined in Claim 6 wherein said external seal includes an annular elastomeric seal ring carried in an annular groove formed on said second tubular body.